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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/866,252	05/24/2001	Jonathan W. Haines	8035145	4581

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07/15/2003

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, THAN VINH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

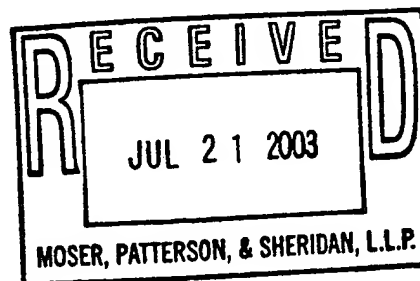
2187

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SEA
File 5145 Atty JAS
Due Date 10-15-03
Type OA Refs _____
NEW DECLARATION - IDENTIFYING APPLICATION by
APPLICATION NO. & FILING DATE



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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/866,252

Applicant(s)

HAINES ET AL.

Examiner

Than Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 1/25/02, 11/15/02, 4/5/02.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 15-20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 1/25/02 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☒ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 are pending.
2. The IDS, filed 5/24/01, has been considered.

Oath/Declaration

3. The oath or declaration is defective. A new oath or declaration in compliance with 37 CAR 1.67(a) identifying this application by application number and filing date is required. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

The oath or declaration is defective because:

It was not executed in accordance with either 37 CAR 1.66 or 1.68.

The signature of William Herz is missing on the declaration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shaver, Jr. et al (US 5,276,662), hereinafter as Shaver .

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As to claim 14:

Shaver teaches a disk drive with improved data transfer management. Shaver teaches a disk drive system comprising:

a signal-bearing media means for storing data (media 24);

a code memory means coupled to a read/write controller means for controlling the reading/writing of data to the signal-bearing media (disc interface controller 56);

means for reading and writing data to the signal-bearing media (read/write circuit 58);

a processor means coupled to the code memory and the read/write controller comprising a program for managing memory segments wherein the memory segments are sized on data rate parameters (host 22; abstract; 2/15-25,50-60; 7/1-43).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 1-13 are allowed.

7. Claims 15-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

As to claim 1, the prior art of record does not teach nor suggest the claimed method of buffer segment management on a disc drive, comprising (emphasis in bold):

wherein, for a read operation;

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determining if one or more buffer segments comprise the data for a read command; wherein, if the data is available then processing the data; wherein, if the data is not available then: determining if a current disc operation time is greater than or equal to one or more read time limits to transfer the data from a media to the one or more read buffer segments; if the disc operation time is greater than the one or more read time limits then aborting the read command; if the disc operation time is less than or equal to the one or more read time limits then reading the data;

wherein, for a write operation;

determining if the data storing size of one or more of the current write buffer segments is sufficient to store the data for a write command; if the data storing size is sufficient to store the data then transferring the data; if the data storing size is not sufficient to store the data then; determining the data sizes of one or more write buffer segments minimizing the number of seek operations within one or more write time limits; wherein, if transferring the data from the one or more write buffer segments is within the one or more write time limits then transferring the data; and wherein, if transferring the data from the one or more write buffer segments is not within the one or more write time limits then aborting the write command.

8. Claims 2-8 are also allowable for incorporating the limitations of claim 1, and further limitations.

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9. As to claim 9, the prior art of record does not teach nor suggest the claimed method of buffer segment management on a disc drive, comprising (emphasis in bold):

wherein, for a read operation;

establishing the command time limits for reading at least two data streams into a read buffer segment; **determining the data rates for at least two read data streams to establish the time to read the data streams into the read buffer segment; determining the read buffer segment size for each data stream with respect to each data stream data rate; comparing the time required to read the at least two data streams into the read buffer segment with the time limits** wherein if the time required to read the at least two data streams into the read buffer segment exceeds the command time limit then aborting the read; wherein if the time required to read the at least two data streams into the read buffer segment does not exceed the command time limit then reading the data;

wherein for a write operation;

determining the data rates for at least two write data streams; establishing the time limits for transferring data from the write buffer to a media; wherein if the write buffer space is less than the write buffer size required then flushing at least one write buffer segment to provide more write buffer segment space; wherein if after flushing the write buffer segment the space is less than the size required then; determining if the time limits will be exceeded; if the time limits will be exceeded then aborting the write operation; if the time limits will not be exceeded then transferring the data to the write buffer segments.

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10. Claims 10-13 are also allowable for incorporating the limitations of claim 9, and further limitations.

11. As to claim 15, the prior art of record does not teach nor suggest the claimed the program when executed by the processor means performs the steps of: determining if one or more buffer segments comprise the data for a read command; wherein, if the data is available then processing the data; wherein, if the data is not available then: **determining if a current disc operation time is greater than or about equal to one or more read time limits to transfer the data from a media to the one or more read buffer segments; if the disc operation time is greater than the one or more read time limits then aborting the read command; if the disc operation time is less than or about equal to the one or more read time limits then reading the data;** wherein, for a write operation; **determining if the data storing size of one or more of the current write buffer segments is sufficient to store the data for a write command; If the data storing size is sufficient to store the data then transferring the data; If the data storing size is not sufficient to store the data then; determining the data sizes of one or more write buffer segments minimizing the number of seek operations within one or more write time limits; wherein, if transferring the data from the one or more write buffer segments is within the one or more write time limits then transferring the data; and wherein, if transferring the data from the one or more write buffer segments is not within the one or more write time limits then aborting the write command.**

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12. Claims 16-20 are also allowable for incorporating the limitations of claim 15, and further limitations.

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Than Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-3866. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. EST.

15. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

16. The fax phone number for Art Unit 2187 is 703-308-9051 or 703-308-9052.



Than Nguyen

Primary Patent Examiner

July 9, 2003